

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES—U.S. INDIAN DWELLINGS AND HOMES

SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADES 4, 5, 6

Charts: Native American Tribes—U.S.
Indian Dwellings and Homes

Level 4 Standards: 6040-01; 02; 03; 04; 05

Level 5 Standards: 6050-01; 02; 03; 04

Level 6 Standards: 6060-01; 03; 05; 06

OBJECTIVE: The students will learn of the variety of dwellings used by the Indian tribes and of the location of Indian tribes in the United States.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: Why did some of early Indian tribes not build permanent homes of wood, plaster, or mortar?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE:

The students will be able to identify, in a class discussion with the teacher monitoring participation, three types of materials used to build earlier Indian homes.

The students will be able to write reasons for using the following materials in constructing homes: animal hides, timber, logs, branches, mud, adobe or rocks.

The students will be able to identify three groups of American Indians and the type of dwellings used by each tribe.

The students will be able to list one example of American Indian influence on contemporary dwellings/architecture.

Students will study, by teacher presentation and their own research, the various tribes in the Utah region. Do the same Indian tribes live here today? Where are they located?

Students may choose to construct a dwelling representative of a dwelling used by a historic Indian tribe.

Explore with the students the impact Indian home construction has had on modern buildings (e.g., Pueblo cliff dwellers and modern condos or apartment units, or Plains Indians tepees and modern tents and trailers).

Explore different types of homes within Utah and consider the national origin of homes within the students communities.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Begin with the Indian dwellings and homes chart that can be viewed on the computer at <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/indianed/> or, using a Video iPod, present a background of four different types of Indian dwellings. Stress that the design and materials were adapted to the location, resources available, and climatic conditions—e.g., tepees used by the Plains Indians were made from animal hides; animals were plentiful at one time on the plains. Woodland tribes used wood, logs, and branches to build.

Lead the discussion to indicate that the dwellings of the settlers were comparable to what the Indians had at that time.

Compare the dwellings of Indians and non-Indians today. Are they more similar than different? Discuss or report on home construction by American Indians in Utah in the 1800s and 1980s.

Resource materials may be found listed at the end of the Guide.



SOCIAL STUDIES GRADES 7-8

Charts: Native American Tribes—U.S.
Indian Dwellings and Homes

Level 7-8 Standards: 6100-01; 02; 03
Utah Studies

Level 7-8 Standards: 6120-01; 02
United States History

OBJECTIVE: The students will be introduced to historic dwellings of American Indians and identify various methods of tribal construction.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: Why did different tribes use different materials in building their dwellings?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

The students will be able to speculate on what forms of construction American Indians used for dwellings.

The students will be able to discuss the status of American Indians' way of life today. Students should explore the similarities between some types of historic Indian dwellings and modern

dwellings, i.e., Pueblo cliff dwellings and modern condos; Plains Indians tepees and modern tents.

The students can prepare reports in small groups on several major groups or tribes of Indians, including location, language, and dwellings.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Using the chart (displayed on the computer), allow the students time to locate the Indian tribes in their respective locations.

Point out the many different tribes with different languages, and indicate that each tribe's dwellings depended on the available resources: Woodland tribes used wood, bark, and branches; Plains Indians used animal hides; and southwestern tribes used available materials.

Indicate that early settlers followed Indian methods of home construction for a period of time. The difference would be that the Indian tribes often had an ongoing relationship with the climate and environment, so they did not build strong doors or windows to keep out the weather.

In a class discussion, explore the idea of Indians today living the same way most other people live.

Resource materials are at the end of the Guide.



SOCIAL STUDIES GRADES 9-12

Charts: Native American Tribes—U.S.
Indian Dwellings and Homes

Level 9-12 Standards: 6200-01; 02; 03

World Cultural Geography, Part I

Level 9-12 Standards: 6220-01; 02; 03

Ancient World Civilizations

Level 9-12 Standards: 6250-01; 02; 03

United States Studies

OBJECTIVE: The students will learn about American Indian tribes in the United States and the historic dwellings of the tribes.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: Why did the different Indian tribes have different dwellings, and what was the first “mobile home”?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

The students will identify specific regions or states for in-depth study. Identify tribes within that area and study from a historical view to the present. Include location (1800s-1980s) and type of dwelling (1800s-1980s).

Discuss the impact Indian architecture has on contemporary construction—materials, structural design, and aesthetics.

Discuss why natural resources were important to the American Indian in design and materials used. Are contemporary builders affected by climate and geographic location?

Discuss ten different games and sports listed on the charts. Explore with the students similarities between games of the early Indian and games the student plays today.

Demonstrate and have children participate in a game listed on the chart—a hand game and a physical activity game.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Give an overview of American Indian tribes in the United States from the charts, using the computer or Video iPod.

Identify at least fifteen major tribes and four lesser known tribes. Discuss location, language, type of dwelling, and style of life.

As a class, discuss how climate and environment determines how we build homes and what materials we use.

Resource materials are listed at the end of the Guide.

